

REMARKS

Applicant requests favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Applicant filed a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement on March 12, 2004, but have not received an initialed PTO-1449 form indicating the Examiner's consideration of the cited art. Consideration of the art cited in the Supplemental IDS and the return of an initialed PTO-1449 form are requested.

Claims 32-36, 39, 41, and 45-57 are now pending in the application, with Claims 32, 44, 45, 51-53, 56 and 57 being independent.

Claims 56 and 57 have been amended. Applicant submits that support for the amendments can be found in the original disclosure, and therefore no new matter has been added.

Applicant appreciates the indication that Claims 32-36, 39, 41, and 43-55 have been allowed over the cited art. For the reasons below, Applicant submits that Claims 56 and 57 should also be allowed.

Claims 56 and 57 stand rejected under 35.U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,151,060 (Tabata). As recited in amended Claim 56, the present invention includes, *inter alia*, the features of detecting first location and orientation information of a first player, detecting second location and orientation information of a second player, and generating a virtual image to be superimposed on an image of the second player included in a sensed image sensed by a camera of the first player, based on the first location and orientation information, the second location and orientation

information and a player model. Claim 57 recites similar features. Applicant submits that the cited art fails to disclose or suggest at least those features.

Tabata discloses a stereoscopic video display apparatus and a driving game machine as one embodiment. The driving game machine is for a single player and presents synthesized images using a chromakey-synthesizing technique. As shown in Fig. 5 of that patent, a sensed image 35 including blue mat front and side windshield portions and regions is sensed by a camera 19, and then stereoscopic CG 37 is synthesized into the blue mat regions. However, Applicant submits that Tabata does not disclose or suggest at least the features of a second player's image included in an image sensed by a first player's camera, or of generating a virtual image to be superposed on the second player's image. Although the Office Action asserts that the image of a player's hands in the sensed image 19 corresponds to the second player's image, Applicant respectfully points out that the hands do not belong to a second player and, in any event, they are part of a sensed image and there is no disclosure of superposing a virtual image on a real image of a second player.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that Claims 56 and 57 are also allowable over the art of record.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejection set forth in the above-mentioned Office Action, and an early Notice of Allowance are requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicant
Brian L. Klock
Registration No. 36,570

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
BLK/lmj

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